

**KEWEENAW NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the meeting October 27, 1998**

Present: Commissioners –

Burt Boyum, Quincy Mine Hoist Association  
Clarence Dwyer, Houghton County Commission  
Kathryn Eckert, Advisor, National Trust for Michigan  
Larry Lankton, Michigan Tech University  
Paul Lehto, Calumet Township Supervisor

National Park Service –

Josef Balachowski, Historical Architect  
Doug Barnard, Isle Royal National Park Superintendent  
Lynn Bjorkman, Community Planner  
Frank Fiala, Keweenaw National Historical Park Superintendent  
Al Hutchings, Associate Regional Director for Legislation & Policy

Special Guests -

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior  
Carl Levin, United States Senator

Recording Secretary –

Lisa Dwyer, Michigan Tech University

Absent: Mary Tuisku, City of Hancock

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission was held Tuesday, October 27, 1998, in Calumet, Michigan at the Calumet Theatre. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM.

Approval of Agenda

The addition to the agenda of Ed Yarbrough, manager of the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, was made. The agenda was then approved.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of the August 25, 1998, were approved on a motion by Clarence Dwyer and seconded by Larry Lankton.

Report by the Chair of the Advisory Commission

Chairman Paul Lehto thanked the large number of community members who were in attendance at the advisory commission meeting and the breakfast reception (held earlier today) to help celebrate the visit of Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt and United States Senator Carl Levin to the Keweenaw.

Report by the Superintendent

KNHP superintendent Frank Fiala welcomed Secretary Babbitt and Senator Levin. Fiala credited Senator Levin as the driving force for the visit of Secretary Babbitt to the Keweenaw and added that Senator Levin has always had a great passion for the park. Fiala will be escorting Secretary Babbitt and Senator Levin on a tour of park sites after the meeting today.

United States Senator Carl Levin

Senator Levin spoke of the importance of preserving and protecting the unique parts of the land for future generations saying that there were about numerous mining companies here at one time and there is a proud history and uniqueness to this area because of those mining companies. The story of the Keweenaw should be shared and carried forward.

The adoption of the General Management Plan was a very critical step in the future growth of the park added Senator Levin, who said that the commission played an important role in reaching this point. Senator Levin said he is eager for the park to grow with the help of Secretary Babbitt, the chief steward and overseer of all of our national parks.

Senator Levin said he is expecting the advisory commission's role to grow from an advisory commission to an actual policy making commission by this time next year. This would mean that the commission will have its own budget and will have the power to approve historic preservation grants for historic renovation projects within park boundaries. Local communities will still continue to make their recommendations regarding the park as well.

#### Secretary of the Interior

Secretary Bruce Babbitt, former governor of Arizona, spoke of the mining history in Arizona as well as the Keweenaw. He praised the efforts that have been done here to preserve the Keweenaw's heritage and promote the growth of the park, saying that it not only affects tourism but also quality of life, quality of schools, and the spirit of the community. Secretary Babbitt said that he will ask President Clinton for 2 million dollars to allow KNHP to acquire four landmark buildings. Three are the former Calumet and Hecla buildings: the office, library, and the warehouse. The fourth is the union building. Secretary Babbitt said he will seek the appropriations for the park's 2000 and 2001 budgets.

#### Presentation

Ed Yarbrough, manager of the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, presented Secretary Babbitt with two publications, *Introduction to Keweenaw Geology* and *Old Reliable*

#### Recognition of Outgoing Commission Members

Letters of appreciation signed by Secretary Babbitt were given to advisory commission members, Burt Boyum, Clarence Dwyer, Kathryn Eckert, Larry Lankton, Paul Lehto, and Mary Tuisku whose terms as commissioners have expired.

Superintendent Fiala commented that the outgoing commission's legacy is the completion of the General Management Plan.

John Garber of Calumet said he would like to thank Peder Kitti for being a past commissioner as well.

#### Recognition of Park Partners

Letters of appreciation signed by Secretary Babbitt were given to Dr. David Gilbert of Calumet; Calumet village president, Tony Bausano; and Keith Niemela, president of the Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce, for their contributions in the support and growth of KNHP.

#### Announcements of New Advisory Commission Members

Superintendent Fiala introduced the new commissioners who have been appointed to the park advisory board by Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt. They are John Garber, representing the Village of Calumet; the Reverend Robert Langseth representing the Houghton County Board of Commissioners; Clyde Raasio representing Quincy and Franklin townships; and Thomas Nemacheck representing Governor John Engler. Three commissioners were reappointed and will continue to serve on the board. They are Kathryn Eckert, Larry Lankton, and Paul Letho.

Adjournment

Before the meeting adjourned, Susan Cone and John Garber were thanked for organizing the reception breakfast held earlier today in honor of Secretary Babbitt and Senator Levin.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10 AM.